pennsylvania musician

magazine

Vol.39 #451 May 2021

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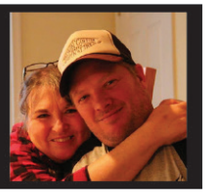
Editor Ramblings By Josh Noll



Oh the month of May is upon us! The birds are chirping and e damn grass is growing like there is no tomorrow. I'm sure most of you have noticed, but live music is back and the events are lining up for a full summer of fun.

I was lucky enough to make it down to XL Live for the reopening of the stage. Having missed the big stage feeling, we were ready for an excellent night of live music. The line up included; Defiant, Suicide Puppets, Lasciate, and Ultraviolent. Ultraviolent started out the night and really got things revved up with a set full of heavy hitters. This is a young bunch of guys who have been playing together since 2014. Based out of Pine Grove PA, they let everyone know that the younger generation has still got the love for heavy metal and mosh pits. You would never have guessed it had been over a year since they last hit a stage.

Second up was Lasciate out of Hershey. I kept trying to pronounce this one but never did get it right. The guys didn't disappoint and delivered a high energy show with an energetic stage presence backed with the same fast paced music.

Third on the list was The Suicide Puppets. Now I have seen many a "Puppet" Show, but let me tell you, this was like no other. I'm really struggling to remember the last time I have seen them but it was well before Covid hit. To say these guys were pumped up to hit the XL stage would be an understatement, they have been waiting on this chance and wanted to make sure they performed up to par. When the first song started I was blown away at the sound and how on point everyone in the band was. Having been listening to the new CD, I at first thought they were doing some Super bowl lip-sync. But after clearing my beer goggles a bit, I checked on Twisty and realized this shit was for real. Kudos to the guys, this was the tightest heavy metal I have heard for awhile and I can't wait to see these guys keep progressing. If you haven't seen a "Puppet" Show please do so. Don't worry they won't take your soul but they may take your last cupcake and turn you back into the heavy metal demon monster you once were. Love these guys, nicest dudes in scary makeup you will every meet.

The headliner for the evening was the mighty Defiant! Another Central PA original, these guys kicked the covid slumber to the curb and kicked the music into high gear. You can tell they have been working on refining their heavy punk thrashed metal into their own unique sound. It's nice seeing bands stick to what they love and playing original music. This is another band that has really developed their sound over the last year. Be sure to check out Defiant playing this month down in Hallam at The Tourist Inn on May 21st supporting Kickin Valentina.

Thanks to XL Live for opening the stage with some local heavy

hitters check out Rachel Rock's article for more coverage of the return of XL Live. AND PLEASE PEOPLE… if you see a local line up at XL live PLEASE go see the show so they keep having said shows

So you wonder what some of the "perks" of being the editor of the PA Musician Magazine are? Well one big one is you get some interesting packages in the mail, one particular artist and occasional advertiser is "Elvis Chicken", aka Sharky, aka Soulman. When a package arrives it sorta seems a little bit serial killer, as the packages are always labeled with clippings from the PA Musician Magazine, accompanied by some other key wrapping element, like McDonalds bags or an obscene amount of tape and postage stamps. I usually just get a CD with a hand written note. Sometimes it's a check with a sketch of an ad he wants to place. Well this time it was a real treat. "Elvis Chicken" Vol 1 Issue 1 comic book. That's correct, this thing is sweet! While not for all ages, as its does contain some nudity, foul language, drugs, sex, and abuse of all kinds (including attacking colonel Sanders). The comic tells the life and times of a chicken making his way in the universe. If you don't know who Elvis Chicken is look him up if you can find him. Kool dude who likes his chickens. If you ever stop by the PA Musician Magazine office, ask for an Elvis Chicken CD and find out for yourself.

Well that's it for this month be sure to save June 19th in your date books for the Whitey Noll Celebration of Life it's going to be a Summer Old School Bash, so bring some cold Rolling Rocks a canopy and some chairs for an all day music event. Details in this issue! Have a great month, get out and enjoy the spring weather, and some local music.

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OUT 'N' ABOUT

By Rachel Rocks

Wow! What a great month! Welcome back live music!! We've missed you!! It was awesome to see so many events and invites popping up all month long. Of course, since things are opening that also means we are busier as a family, so I was out of town almost every weekend this month, but I did manage to squeeze in a couple of shows. It was so nice to sit at a bar again and have a drink without taking up a table for 4!

Corina Rose

My first night out this month started back at Newfangled Brew Works for Corina Rose. I've caught pieces of shows before but this was her first full show I was able to enjoy. Corina might be little, but she's loud, and she definitely draws the attention of anyone in the room with her amazing voice and well written original songs. It was awesome to see a full house at Newfangled enjoying the show. Corina recently submitted a song to the Central PA Music Hall of Fame to be considered for their special 'Cover to Cover' Award. Corina reached out to her good friend Ryan Alan from Whiskey On The Rocks and covered a song he wrote called "Whiskey Highway". Corina even created an awesome video to go with the song. You can check it all out on her Facebook page. We are really hoping to get to have the Central PA Music Awards (CPMAs) on July 3rd, and that's where/when we will finally find out who all of the big winners are. Corina plays quite a bit throughout central PA and beyond, hopefully you'll get lucky and catch a show soon for yourself!

Jason Carst at Boneshire

Next up was a Thirsty Thursday night at Boneshire Brew Works for Jason Carst. Jason was all set up, so he was streaming live while he was playing. I've seen quite a few people doing this now… it's so smart! Not everyone is comfortable heading out to public places yet, so this is still a way everyone can enjoy the show, and of course give you a tip if they are so inclined to do so! I got there in time for the all request hour, but Jason is smart, he hands out lists of songs for people to pick songs that he knows instead of just yelling out "FREE BIRD!" Although people still do… of course. It was a great night to just chill and drink a few beers with my friends and listen to great music. I'm always guaranteed to have a good time at Jason's shows. I'm glad I got there in time to hear Atlantic City, by Bruce Springsteen, because not only is it a great song, but I also love Atlantic City, so since he told me to go to the beach, that's what I did the next day with Mom! Jason is also back in business with his day job, booking big shows up at Spyglass, and other big venues in the area. Keep your eyes peeled, the shows are coming back, big and small… I want to see and hear them all!

Devon Beck at XL

You might see a pattern here, but on another Thirsty Thursday I headed to Boneshire again, and this night Dave Gates was playing. As a side note, I actually went on Facebook and saw that we've been friends since November 2018. I think that Dave should win an award for being the most persistent musician at keeping me in the loop of all of his shows, and finally, I was able to show up to one! This was a super special occasion because I also got my hubby Kris to come with me! Dave doesn't mess around either, not only was he also going

Dave Gates at Boneshire

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Colt Wilbur Band & Fantastic Fans at XL

live during his show, but he even brought his own lights and really made it a show! He had the whole room singing and chair dancing along and having a good time! Dave did an amazing job at reading the crowd, and once we all started getting rowdy, he kept that train rolling and throwing out every sing a long song he had left in his arsenal. It was a great show! And I'm so glad our paths finally crossed.

I was bummed to miss the opening night of XL Live with all of my favorite metal/hard rock bands! But I'm sure Josh did a great job covering that show. I was there the following weekend for the country night! I was so excited I got there early enough to see the whole show. Devon Beck was the first one to take the stage. She took some time from her busy life down in Nashville to come up and entertain her home crowd. It was awesome to see Devon on that big stage singing her heart out

continued on next page...

in her sparkly boots. It's also super awesome to hear that she's still writing and playing all over the place. She is obviously willing to travel and would love to play your venue or special event! You can check out her ad in this issue for all of her websites and booking information.

Garrett Shultz took the stage next. Garrett has been playing throughout the mid-state, but he's another one that I was finally catching for the first time. A few of his songs were rock enough that I even got Angie up dancing for a bit! Garrett was celebrating the release of a new single "Always Be" from his upcoming album American Made! It's a great idea to release this song right before Mother's Day, Garrett definitely knows what he's doing. He has videos with the song on youtube and you can find his single on any of your favorite streaming platforms.

Next up was the Colt Wilbur Band. You could definitely tell from the crowd response, that this is the band a majority of the people were here to see. As soon as Colt took the stage, the dance floor was packed. It quickly became a "normal" show. People were dancing, drinking, and having a great time! The Colt Wilbur Band is lucky to not only have all great musicians, but all of their

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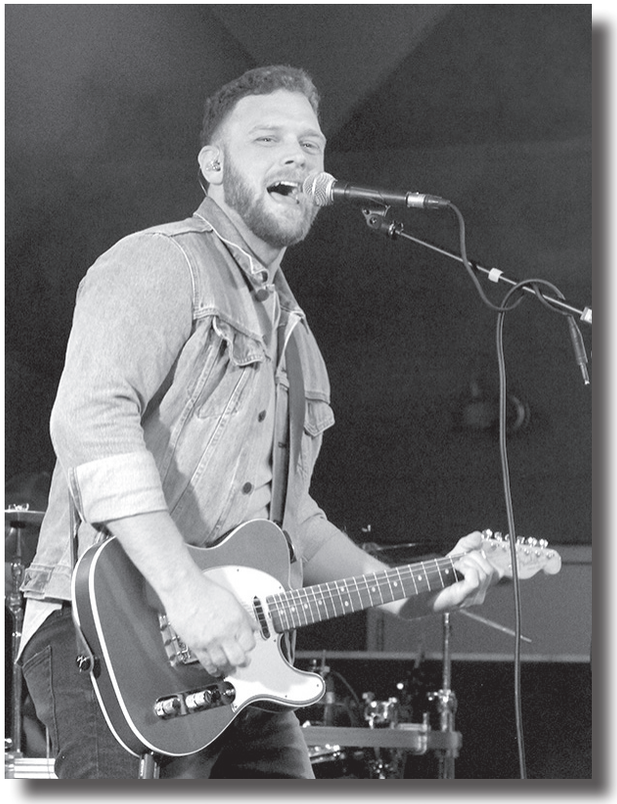

Garrett Shultz at XL

vocals are great too! It really helps their band be more versatile, and no one ever gets too burned out either. They always put on a great show and you can see that by the size of their crowd!

The last band of the night was Road Case. It was truly magical to see a full rockin' band back on the stage at XL Live. It was hard to believe that Road Case's show didn't even start til 11:30. For a post Covid show, that is super late! Ha! My body is used to going to sleep at 10pm, even though I was exhausted, it was awesome to see the smiles on the guys' faces back on the stage doing what they love to do! Every time I see a band and think about how much down time they've had I'm always super impressed by how tight they all are musically, never missing a beat! Maybe now that I'm a "musician" myself I can appreciate the musicianship of a band even more! I'm glad they had a night of the local bands at XL Live. I'm so glad they are back!! And we finally have a place to see real, live bands, all plugged in and rockin' the night away! Road Case had to be at their next show less than 12 hours later at Susquehanna Harley Davidson. I'm sure they were all feeling it by Sunday, and hopefully they had a nice, super chill, Sunday Funday to recover from all of their band shenanigans! Road Case will be playing at Dad's Celebration of Life and Music Festival on June 19th! If you want to come to a free show with quite a few great bands, check out the ad in this issue with all of the details!

May looks to be about as busy as April for me and my family, but I hope to catch a few shows here and there. I'll be in a wedding on May 1st that has Nineties Entertainment System for their after party, so I know I'll see at least one band! I'm really looking forward to see my best friends Matt and Holly tie the knot! I also want to give a super special birthday shout out to my nephew Robert Greene turning the BIG 16 on May 3rd!! It's truly hard to believe, but time flies!

If you see me Out and About please stop me and say Hi. If you have shows coming up, make sure I know about them. Hit me up on Facebook, or email me at RachelRocks@pamusician.net, or better yet, ADVERTISE!!! The PA Musician Magazine depends on ad dollars to stay in business. Without you, we wouldn't be.. so Get out there and Support Local Music, but also get out there and Support Small Businesses, like us, the PA Musician Magazine. Check it out online at www.pamusician.net and give us a like on facebook.com/PA Musician Magazine

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Road Case at XL

NATIONALS

By Eric Hoffman

Greetings Rockers 'N' Rollers! For a second straight year, Harrisburg will close several downtown streets to traffic to allow dining in the city's streets. "We are pleased to bring back this summer initiative," said Mayor Eric Papenfuse. "I encourage residents to come support their favorite restaurants." "Saturday Nights in the City" re-launches on May 1st and is slated to run each Saturday throughout the summer, from 5pm to 10pm. Bands will also return to Key West on 2nd Street for "Saturday Nights in the City," featuring The Swisher Sweets on May 1st, Smooth Like Clyde on May 8th and Emily's Toybox on May 15th. The idea began last year in response to the pandemic-mandated shutdown of indoor dining.

NATIONAL NEWS: Grammy award nominated rock & soul duo Black Pumas and Cleveland's own Machine Gun Kelly will perform at the NFL draft. A massive stage has been constructed near FirstEnergy Stadium and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame to host the three-day event from April 29th to May 1st. Black Pumas self-titled debut album was nominated as Album of the Year at the 2021 Grammy Awards. And the group is slated to play XL

continued on next page...

Live in Harrisburg on October 12th. Machine Gun Kelly, who graduated from Shaker Heights High School on Cleveland's east side, will close the festivities. Kings of Leon kicked off the draft on April 29th.

Rapper DMX died on April 9th at the age of 50. The raspy-voiced hip-hop artist who produced the songs "Ruff Ryders' Anthem" and "Party Up (Up in Here)" and who rapped with a trademark delivery that was often paired with growls, barks and "What!" as an ad-lib. The Grammy-nominated performer died after suffering "catastrophic cardiac arrest," according to the hospital in White Plains, New York, where he died. DMX built a multiplatinum career as one of rap's stars in the 1990s and early 2000s, but he also struggled with drug addiction and legal problems that repeatedly put him behind bars. His addiction first took hold at age 14 when he smoked a marijuana cigarette that was laced with cocaine. The rapper, whose birth name was Earl Simmons, died with relatives by his side after several days on life support. Survivors include his 15 children and his mother.

Mick Jagger and Dave Grohl collaborated for a new song titled, "Eazy Sleazy." The Rolling Stones frontman stated, "I wanted to share this song that I wrote about eventually coming out of lockdown, with some much needed optimism." The Nirvana drummer / Foo Fighters said, "It's hard to put into words what recording this song with Sir Mick Jagger means to me. It's beyond a dream come true." The song's inspiration includes the past year's Covid-19 pandemic, lockdowns, variety of opinions and conspiracy theories. In a Rolling Stone interview, Mick Jagger also talked about his personal friends opposed to vaccinations, "It just seems to be that even people you know that are relatively sensible about a lot of things have one thing that they just don't kind of get. They're just irrational. Of course, there's no point in speaking to people about it. They don't get it. They got what they believe in and they believe in that. And it doesn't matter what you say, they're gonna believe in it. And rational thought doesn't work"

Dee Snider (Twisted Sister), Alex Skolnick (Testament), Sebastian Bach (Skid Row) and Tracii Guns (L.A. Guns) are among the musicians who have reacted to the news that Ted Nugent, who once dismissed Covid-19, tested positive for it and "can hardly crawl out of bed" due to aches and pains. In a Facebook Live stream the outspoken conservative rocker said, "I've got an announcement to make. I have had flu symptoms for the last ten days. I thought I was dying. Just a clusterf*ck. I was tested positive today. I got the Chinese sh*t." Nugent went on to say that he is "homebound,

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Dave Grohl & Mick Jagger

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Morrissey on The Simpsons

NATIONALS continued...

i.e. quarantined" and going "to counterpunch Covid-19 thru willpower." Nugent has expressed skepticism that coronavirus even existed, calling it a "scamming pandemic" and vowing not to take any vaccine. Dee Snider reacted, "I have zero sympathy for loud mouth naysayers who get the thing they've been naysaying! People have suffered and died while Ted literally called Covid bullsh*t. #karmasabitch" And Sebastian Bach stated, "Zero sympathy for Asian hate. You want to dish out hate you're going to get hate right back no problem. Zero sympathy for anyone I meet that uses the N word. For every musician like this there is a guy like me or Dee who is not going to take it. Plus we are bigger than them." Earlier this month, Nugent made headlines when he suggested the novel coronavirus is referred to as Covid-19 because there have been 18 other coronaviruses and also mocked people who wear face masks.

English singer, Morrissey, was recently mocked on the television series, The Simpsons. Morrissey's manager criticized the show's mockery as "insulting." The former Smiths frontman weighed in with a lengthy statement on his website "The hatred shown towards me from the creators of The Simpsons is obviously a taunting lawsuit but one that requires more funding than I could possibly muster in order to make a challenge." The Simpsons episode in question features a vegan British musician named Quilloughby, who formerly fronted a band called the Snuffs. The singer isn't currently planning legal action but will "surely be looking at options." Morrissey concluded, "In a world obsessed with Hate Laws, there are none that protect me."

Slipknot, Rob Zombie and Mudvayne will headline Inkcarceration Music & Tattoo Festival this September, as the event returns to the Ohio State Reformatory in Mansfield, Ohio, for its third edition. The gig will be the first in more than a decade for Mudvayne, which announced its reformation after a 12-year hiatus. Other musical acts descending on Mansfield September 10th-12th include A Day To Remember, Mastodon, Halestorm, Chevelle, Killswitch Engage, Beartooth, Motionless In White, Asking Alexandria, Steel Panther, Fever 333, The Hu and Pop Evil. Inkcarceration will also gather more than 75 tattoo artists for the event. In 2019, its most recent year of operation, Inkcarceration grossed $2.48 million with a lineup including Shinedown, Godsmack and Five Finger Death Punch.

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RIDER'S ON THE STORM

By Chris Rider

April has come and mostly gone...quickly, at least for me. I didn't get out for as many shows as I'd have liked to due to some personal scheduling conflicts, but I did get out for a few and they were all great. As the weather warms up, I'm seeing more and more outdoor shows announced as well as bigger shows as venues that had to be closed until now are allowed to finally open back up, although with still diminished capacity. We're slowly getting there.

My first trip out was up to Sunbury to see my buddy Dave Gates play at McGuigans Public House. Dave played a great mix of covers including Hotel California, Feel Like Making

continued on page 14...

Dave Gates

Steve "Cool Beans" Pullara

Article & photos by Al Heefner/exithibernation media

Steve "Cool Beans" Pullara is an exceptional musician and story teller that you may not have heard of. His audience is not the usual concert goer, nor is it the night club party fan. He likely would not be pushing his amplifier to 'eleven', nor showing up two hours late to a concert in a helicopter. What he WOULD be doing is arriving in his quite punctual fashion, carrying a guitar case and a bag with mysterious addendums, including a flute, a banjo, and a sidekick named Sonny (Sonny is a handmade, trademarked puppet that features in part of his show). Steve's audience is made up of something that one could say is a bit more endearing, and one that tugs at the heart strings. Just glancing at some of his song titles, such as "Kitty Cat Under My Wheelchair", "Grandma's Video Camera", "The Elephant Who Couldn't Pay Her Rent" and "Alien Babies", you know that his music is geared towards all ages, but of special appeal to those up and coming. When Steve shares his stories and wit with the audience, he shares what has become known as 'Pullarables', a collection of original sayings that could be a daily calendar reminder for all to enjoy.

For over thirty plus years now, Steve has been entertaining the very young, the underserved, the learning-challenged, along with families and groups of all ages, with songs that not just get their attention, but that stick with them after they are heard. 2011 proved to be a pivotal year for Steve, where he earned the coveted GRAMMY® award for Best Children's Album "All About Bullies…Big and Small", as a producer and lead writer for the project. Steve has been listed in the top ten entertainers list by the Philadelphia Intelligencer newspaper, has received additional GRAMMY® nominations, is the recipient of a U.S. Congressional Citation, and has been honored and recognized by such organizations as ASCAP-Plus, Crayola, Bucks County-Intermediate Unit, various Parent's Choice, National Parenting Product's Awards aka The NAPPA®, the Hot Digitty Awards® for Children's Music, and many more. Steve's latest album, "An A Cappella Family", was released in 2020. With a catalog spanning more than 15 albums and multiple collaborations, Steve has been a busy bee to say the least. Exit Hibernation Media though it most prudent to sit down with this artist to get a new perspective on the life of a professional musician whose genre is unique and profound, along with clicking some photos of him with his guitar collection.

Steve makes use of two professional studios in and around Bucks county. East Coast Recording Company, an area recording facility run by GRAMMY® winning producer Jim Cravero, is located in Warminster. A long-time collaborator of Steve's, Jim has worked with Steve on many projects, and has an impressive list of clients. East Coast Recording is a nucleus of many commercial projects, and is housed in a historic former astronaut training facility. Steve's other main studio is Robinsong Studio, located in Swarthmore PA, owned and operated by fellow GRAMMY® winner Pat Robinson. Steve has regularly collaborated with fellow GRAMMY® winner and friend Gloria Domina, who adds her percussion on songs in both studios to complete the team. As a working, professional musician, Steve utilizes the best of the best.

EHM: Thank you, Steve, for taking the time to do this interview! It is exciting to talk with a GRAMMY® award winning musician, and especially one who is making a difference in the lives of the youth of today. To help the readers get a sense of who you are, and what you do, can you tell us a bit about how you got started as a musician? When did you first start to play an instrument, and what instrument was it?

SCBP: It's my pleasure to meet with you today, in fact it's been a lot fun! The first instruments that I ever touched were my grandparent's guitars. They both taught me the Italian folk song entitled "Eh Cumpari." I included that song on my multi award winning album entitled "A Big Bowl of Musicroni". Grandpa's guitar (an original, hand-made Oscar-Schmidt) stayed with him during his whole life. In fact, it was on his back when he landed here in the early 1920's at Ellis Island. After Grandpa went to heaven, my Dad, his Sister, or Aunt Della, and my two uncles Joe & John, presented it to me. I treasure it. My parents had it restored for their 60th Wedding Anniversary where I played it to sing "Che Sera Sera" for the whole family

and guided them in a sing along. You can hear my album version of this song on YouTube. I was also asked to tell the story of how it got here from the ship name La Providenza. Grandpa's guitar is an Oscar Schmidt Parlor guitar and was made in Elizabeth, NJ, and then was shipped to Italy, only later to come back to the states via luxury liner, though in steerage.

EHM: What appealed to you about making music when you were first starting out?

SCBP: Joy was the alluring appeal, combined with the good vibe that it gives people, as I mutually enjoy being its vessel.

EHM: Where did you get the inspiration for the name "Cool Beans"?

SCBP: My bands original name was Steve Pullara & His Invisible Friends Band, while my company's name was Cool Beans Music. When people booked me, they always put Cool Beans or Steve Pullara & His Cool Beans Band. The phrase came to me from a person with whom I worked with in a corporation. Whenever she was happy, she would say, "Cool Beans!" That was the team I was forming as my children's entertainment and recording company. When getting booked I needed a catchy name. As I heard that being said, I realized that was a wonderful name and trademarked it with the U.S. copyrights office. I have Cool Beans Music & Design® for my incorporated usage and with that, hence I own it with peace of mind.

EHM: What made you gravitate towards the children's music genre versus any other?

SCBP: It's who I am. Most everything that I record or perform has a fun and gathering feel. I like to make my audiences happy no matter their age or situation. The interesting thing in what I record or perform, is that plenty of my songs have a natural sense of colorful story telling with humor and or reflection.

EHM: You have an award that is unlike most others, and one that many may never get to achieve. How did you first find out that you were nominated for a GRAMMY®, and what was the experience like with actually winning one?

SCBP: It was a lot of work, planning, vision, and team building. Once you have that, you should always want to work at a GRAMMY® quality level. We have a team tradition whereas, I do not look at the nominees list when it is announced, I'm called by my friend and coproducer Jim Cravero. Once announced, the world as I knew it changed. Interviews were requested with all kinds of people wanting to work with artists like me and our team members. To the recording artist community, it means that you are serious, relevant and that you have marks to make in the industry.

EHM: You have become quite versed in the business side of things. How has that knowledge and experience transcended work and relationships with others in the music business?

SCBP: Everything that I learned was either the hard way, the best way, or the warning to do it right. Peers and pros gave me time to learn to be a pro. I am called all the time for advice. If I can guide peers to the right sources, it makes me feel great and I ask all who seek and find to share and make time to help others dream, too. Time is a great gift that we can all give.

EHM: Tell us about your latest album, "An A Cappella Family". Where did the inspiration for that release come from?

SCBP: This album was started slightly ahead of Covid 19 as an a cappella album for children in January 2020 with a team in the LA area known as the Smith Sisters (aka Keeli Lewis & Wendi Kilman). They are an a cappella duo that really are tight. We had no idea quarantines were coming. The twist is that we were in Warminster, PA while they were on the West Coast and we never physically met. It was not chosen as a cappella album due to Covid 19, but as I said...The Lord works in mysterious ways. How best to do an album where nobody has to be physically there except in small pockets? I wrote all the songs in PA and sang all the male harmony spots with Pat Robinson's guidance as to where and what to do. He sent them to Keli and Wendi, who gave their tracks to Dave Williams at 2nd Floor Recording & Studio for several months. Tim Lewis also did engineering with Kelli and when that part was done Jim Cravero did audio sound effects, mixing and added in Gloria Domina's Percussion. When all was sung and done, we had created a multi awarded well played new album with fun and relatable subjects. I stay away from politics, but every song, as in my Pullarables, have a deeper meaning, even if you are laughing all the way through. Our fun album "An A Cappella Family" can be head gratis at www.CoolBeansMusic.com or on most streaming services.

EHM: What does the future have in store for you and the Cool Beans Band?

SCBP: Expansion of my work in portable media, but I would like to create content for popular needs such as TV, movies, commercials, and of course radio airplay/streaming, with dare I say a mega hit!

For more information on Steve, his art and music, and the Cool Beans Band, check out his links at:

https://www.coolbeansmusic.com
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Axe & Fiddle

Love, I'm Yours, No Woman No Cry, as well as a handful of his originals. The food and beer was great, the crowd loved the music, what more can you ask for? Definitely add this place to your list if you're in the area.

Next up was a stop in a Isle of Que Brewing in Selinsgrove to see Jason Yoder play with Caleb Minium under the duo named Axe & Fiddle. Playing with a sound that mixes folk, blues and classic rock, the guys covered a number of songs including John Prine's Angel From Montgomery and REM's Losing My Religion, as well as a couple of Jason's originals. I had a great night hanging out with the guys from Que Brew, as well as some other local musicians that came out to support a great venue with some great live music. This place never fails to have a great crowd. Oh...and they have Animal 54. Trust me...try it... you don't even have to thank me later, but you can if you want. By the way...a Battle of the Breweries was recently held online at TheBeerThrillers.com. After 4 rounds of competition (I misspoke in last month's article saying there was 5 rounds by the way) against 47 other breweries (including some big names!), Isle of Que was voted #1! Don't take my word for it, take the word of thousands of other people that voted and check this place out!

The next time I was able to get out, we headed back up to Sunbury to catch Diane Gidaro at Iron Vines Winery. She played a solo acoustic set to a full house. Covering songs from

Diane Gidaro

Jewel, Elle King, Alanis Morissette and John Mayer; Diane sings with a soft, sweet voice with a great flow to it. David, the owner of Iron Vines, is always bringing in great local musicians, and he's recently added to his menu as well including a new cheese

The Mighty River Band

tray which goes great with his tasty variety of wines, as well as a Ribeye steak sandwich. You can't go wrong here.

My last trip out for this article was to a "new to me" place that I've been meaning to get to for a while...and after this night, I regretted that I haven't been there before now. I caught The Mighty River Band down in Enola at Grotto Pub. Leading up to this, the band had shared the pub's specials for the night. I spent all day drooling over the Fish Tacos I was planning on having and praying I wouldn't be disappointed. Long story made short, I was far from disappointed. Phil runs a very cool place with great food and an outstanding beer selection. Marcy and the boys rolled out for a killer set of Grateful Dead tunes, including a personal fav of mine "I Know You Rider" lol. This place was packed to capacity, unfortunately to the point that they had to actually turn folks away based on current limitations. For those that couldn't make the show or were turned away, keep your eyes open...more are coming!

The Mighty River Band

So there it is...a short month, at least music-wise for me, through my eyes and ears. I'm definitely planning on seeing and hearing a lot more this month and I hope you are too. Just a reminder: if you've got a show coming up that I should see, make sure to send me an invite, shoot me an email or a message, let me know about it. Venues: please don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. The majority of the shows that I go and shoot I find out about through invites from all of you or your friends. Hit me up on facebook: @chrisriderphotography or email: chrisriderphotography@gmail.com, stop me if you see me out & around and say hi. Until next month...go find some live music and give them and the venue your support, they truly need it more now than they ever did.

The Mighty River Band

THE PROFESSOR

By Jim Price

Live music steadily continued to resurface in the past month as COVID-19 restrictions were eased and outdoor temperatures continued to rise. Barring any setbacks, the summer season looks to rebound at least partially, with several outdoor festivals and area concert series announcing their schedules, and area music venues with outdoor capabilities planning outside entertainment as well.

Some outdoor festivals that were silenced last year due to the pandemic are already bouncing back this year. One of them is Huntingdon's annual Mayfest celebration, which returned to a five-block stretch of Washington Street in downtown Huntingdon during the last Saturday of last month. The weather was cooperative as visitors enjoyed vendors, volunteers and organizers dressed in period costumes from several historical-themed zones, food and refreshment vendors, children's activities, and live musical entertainment. I caught some of the later afternoon music, including the Nick Miller Project performing at the entrance to the Clifton 5 Cinema. Equipped with guitar, djembe and other percussion, plus his looping pedal array, Nick played a wide range of sounds, mixing blues, funk, hip-hop, folk, reggae, jazz flavors and more. Nick was fascinating to observe as he recorded instruments, rhythms and riffs on the spot and looped them to build his rhythmic backdrops, to which he would then sing and play lead guitar – building each song from scratch into full-blown, soul-stirring adventures. He mixed original tunes and select covers. Some of Nick's selections included Phish's "Down with Disease," Squirrel Nut Zippers' "Hell," Cher's "Bang Bang," Blitzen Trapper's "Furr" and more. After watching Nick, I strolled a short distance up Washington Street to catch some of the latter songs from Mayfest mainstays Dan & Galla. With Dan on keys and Galla on acoustic guitar, flute and various percussion instruments, the pair sang a variety of favorites; I listened as they happily did versions of Johnny Rivers' "Rockin' Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu," the merging of "Twist and Shout" into "La Bamba," the Drifters' "Under the Boardwalk," Little Richard's "Tutti Frutti" and others. Huntingdon's Mayfest was actually the first of three different events I attended that day, and three events in three different towns for a 100-plus mile round trip adventure!

Following Mayfest, I followed Routes 26 and 30 to Bedford to see the Bad Luck Lover Boys as they performed at Olde Bedford Brewing Company. Recently issuing their full-length CD "Letters to Emily," lead singer Chris Diehl, guitarist/singer Matt Godissart, bassist/singer Adam Lingenfelter and drummer/singer Brad Hengst generated the fun by mixing power pop/punk-flavored tunes off the album with similar-flavored favorites from Green Day, Blink 182, Lit, Jimmy Eat World, the Matt-fronted amped-up take on Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues" and more. Some of their original numbers off the album included "Cory's Hangover," "I Lost You," the Adam-fronted "London Fog," "Movie Song," "Mixed Bag," "Grump," "Somewhere Girl" and others. Bad Luck Lover Boys were a hit with the crowd, mixing their music with friendly talk and audience member shout-outs. When the audience called for the encore, the group closed out the night with Green Day's "Good Riddance." Watch for Bad Luck Lover Boys as they spread their upbeat music and energetic show across the region.

From Bedford, I completed my trifecta by returning to Altoona and a venue I hadn't stepped inside since before the pandemic, the 4D's Lounge, where the Giants Of Science were playing their first show since before the pandemic. The Giants were a trio this night, as founder, ringleader, singer and guitarist Mick, bassist and singer Johnny 5 and drummer Steve mixed up a variety of rock and pop favorites spanning the 1960s through 1990s. (Keyboard man Scotty B was not available this night.) The Giants and the Dees audience shook the rust as the night went along, and a few dancers took to the floor as the group played numbers from Sublime, the Rolling Stones, John Mellencamp, Van Morrison, Pearl Jam, Beastie Boys, Rick Springfield, Tommy Tutone, Doors, Green Day, Tom Petty and many more. I think this may have been the first time I've seen the Giants break out Black Sabbath's "Paranoid," and the group did several of their familiar favorites like Van Morrison's "Brown Eyed Girl," the Beastie Boys' "(You Gotta) Fight for Your Right (to Party)," Soft Cell's "Tainted Love," and to close the night, Tom Petty's "American Girl." Still bringing the party, the Giants Of Science will be frequenting the area for several outdoor events during the summer season; watch for their return to the 4D's soon as well.

Four hard-hitting rock bands christened the freshly-renovated and reopened Root-Hovett Hall near Patton for an all-ages show in late March. Although I arrived after their set, young Altoona-based punk rock trio Abstentious reportedly represented well during their set to open the evening. The Heathen Parade was on stage as I arrived, testing the structural integrity of

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the former church with their sinister brand of metal/punk-driven "rotten roll." Guitarist and lead snarler Jason Straw, bassist Jay Snider and drummer Rik Golden showcased their punishing original songs such as "Dead Heat, Dead Last," "Notorious," "Born Again Leviathan" and their closer, "Diesel Jesus." Preparing to issue their debut album this summer, Altoona's Maul followed with their set of all-original, hard-hitting rock. Singer Todd McKeone, guitarists Eric Prindible and Nate Nagle, bassist Tanner Thomas and drummer Dave Applas blended alternative, classic rock and metal elements into their song creations, with each tune displaying its own unique angle. Some of Maul's numbers included "Don't Mean Nothing," "The Bridge You Can't Burn," "Stoning Glass Temples," "Fly Away" (inspired by pro-wrestling legend Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka), "Keep That Light Inside" and "The Writing on the Wall." Todd delivered intensity on the vocal end, and Maul backed him with tightly-executed, intensifying and varying grooves. Negan then finished the night with their scorching set of full-force heavy rock and metal. Singer (and Root-Hovett Hall owner and renovator) Mike Davis, guitarists Bob Gray and Jeremy Ashurst, bassist Josh Yahner and drummer Damien Falatek unleashed several of their original songs, including the four songs from their 2018 "Burnt Pages" EP plus new ones like "Goat Whispers" and "I Am Negan." Negan also played several select heavy-hitting covers from Helmet, Tool, Audioslave, Ozzy Osbourne, System Of A Down, Soundgarden and others. Highlights included young guest "Squeaks" dancing with Mike onstage to Negan's take on Ghost/Roky Erickson's "If You Have Ghosts," and the lid-slamming rendition of Iron Maiden's "Two Minutes to Midnight" to end the show. Watch for more shows at Root-Hovett Hall, along with other community events as well.

Tanner Thomas of Maul

Wolfgang Moon

Jimmy Crawford of Anger Box

More fundraising shows took place in recent weeks to support the upcoming Mass N Tha Grass Alternative Music & Arts Festival, happening Aug. 6-7 at the Sinking Valley Fairgrounds in northern Blair County. I checked out last month's "Alt Jams" fundraiser show at JOOS in downtown Altoona, featuring four performances. I arrived just before Wolfgang Moon officially kicked things off. The Williamsburg-based singer and guitarist mixed several of his blues-based original songs with select covers, including tunes from Stevie Wonder and Johnny Cash, plus his versions of Nancy Sinatra's "These Boots"

continued on next page...

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THE PROFESSOR continued....

and David Bowie's "Life on Mars?" Next was Jesse & the Ghost, the solo project brainchild of former Kevo Can't Dance collaborator Jesse Querry. Armed with guitar, Jesse mixed alternative, punk and folk elements through his set of original songs and select covers. Among his original numbers were "Radioactive Decay of Nostalgia and Trinkets" and his set-closer "Road." This night marked the return of the Steam City Riders, playing their first set in nearly a decade. Jon Wittmer wielded acoustic guitar and sang, while Colin Lennox fired up and generated low-end sounds and rhythms on didgeridoo. Dedicating their performance in memory of Damien "Peach" Petry (the founder, singer and guitarist for roots/jam group the High Street Drifters passed away on March 27), Jon and Colin performed their unique brand of Americana and roots sounds, mixing original songs and a few covers over two short sets. They opened with the traditional folk tune "Going Down the Road Feeling Bad," and also did renditions of "West Texas Cowboy" and their take on "I Know You Rider." Colin opened their second set with a tutorial on the didgeridoo and how it is played. Closing the evening was Tois (pronounced "toys") with their hard-edged garage rock sound. Comprised of singer/guitarist Brandon Russell, bassist Dylon Weakland and drummer Sean Foster, Tois mixed a number of hard-driving, low-fi original rockers from both Tois and its sister project, Neon Hotel, such as "Hey You," "Daily Dose," "Blue Collar," "Mediocre at Its Best," "We All Fall Down," "Simon Says" and more. This show saw decent attendance and raised some money toward Mass N Tha Grass; watch for more of these Tuesday night events at JOOS in the weeks ahead.

I checked out several shows at McGarvey's in Altoona recently. One was the Johnstown double-bill of Blood Union and The Heathen Parade, which was also a Jay Snider doubleheader – Jay did double-duty this night, playing guitar with Blood Union and bass with The Heathen Parade.

continued on next page...

Mike Davis of Negan

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THE PROFESSOR continued....

Blood Union started off the night – Jay, Tim Frick on lead vocals and guitar, bassist and singer Ron Gallucci plus Ben Frick on drums showcased their hard-rocking original songs. Blending elements of both modern and classic hard rock with strong melodies, Blood Union did numbers such as "A World Apart," "Survive," their new intensifying slow-rocker "Suffocate," "My Obsession," "Killing Me Inside," their anthemic closer "Lit" and others. Tim displayed a powerful and high-ranging voice up front, and Blood Union's instrumental performance was tight and action-packed. The Heathen Parade then upped the savagery with their set, unleashing their scathing brand of metal music. Jay, singer and guitarist Jason Straw and drummer Rik Golden displayed their original song arsenal, this night doing such numbers as "Hellbent Hellbound," "Guns N Rosaries," "Dead Heat, Dead Night," "Born Again Leviathan," and "Rockstar," prefaced by Jay playing his bass with a bow. The Heathen Parade returns to McGarvey's in a double-bill with Samara on May 21.

Tim Frick of Blood Union

Cumberland, Maryland's Anger Box paid their first visit to McGarvey's stage last month. Four members strong, the group brought the firepower over three sets as they performed a blend of hard-hitting original songs and heavy-rocking favorites spanning the 1990s to present. Drummer Chris Spiker, bassist Jimmy Crawford and guitarist Dave Ullery generated the powerful backdrops for frontman Nick Boren, who displayed a strong voice and action-packed stage presence up front. Anger Box introduced their own songs such as "Save Myself," "In My Head," "I'll Find You Here" and "All I Wanted," and also songs from Fuel, Alice In Chains, Pearl Jam, Staind, Godsmack, Chevelle, Mudvayne, Tool, Velvet Revolver, Theory Of A Deadman and much more. Among many highlights were the group throwing a curveball with their rocking adaptation of Lil Wayne's "Like a Lollipop" (for the ladies), and their third set-opening Korn triple-shot of "Blind," "Here to Stay" and "Falling Away From Me." Anger Box's high-powered performance won over numerous fans this night; watch for more visits by this group to McGarvey's stage in the months to come.

Mellissa Vella and Kenny Karlheim brought their acoustic show to McGarvey's early last month. They brought reinforcements, as Rick Ramsey and Ed Hofer joined them on bass and percussion respectively. Mellissa handled most of the lead singing duties, with Kenny providing backing vocals and playing acoustic guitar. They mixed a wide variety of classic rock, pop, folk, soul and blues sounds as they performed numbers from Elle King, Cranberries, Bob Seger, Indigo Girls, Blind Melon, Tom Petty, R.E.M. and more. Mellissa poured herself into every song, her expressive singing style wringing emotion, heart and soul out of each word. Some standouts this night included versions of the Allman Brothers' "Soulshine," Fleetwood Mac numbers such as "Dreams," "Landslide" and "Rhiannon," Tracy Chapman's "Give Me One Reason" and Otis Redding's "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay."

The Castle Pub in Ebensburg hosted the duo of Denny and Ken Pompa in late March. Both strummed acoustic guitars and sang, with Ken switching between six and 12-string guitars. Denny & Ken entertained with a variety of mostly classic rock, pop and country favorites; doing tunes from Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Badfinger, REO Speedwagon, Tom Petty, Lumineers, America, Poco, CSNY, Collective Soul, Zac Brown Band, Doobie Brothers, Gin Blossoms and more. The pair pulled out some song surprises you don't hear very often, such as Randy Meisner's "Hearts On Fire," John Stewart's "Gold," Crowded House's "Something So Strong," Barenaked Ladies' "It's All Been Done" and Corbin/Hanner's country hit "Work Song." Other highlights included Ken singing lead on Marshall Tucker Band's "Fire on the Mountain," the pair's harmonies on Kansas' "Dust in the Wind," their blending of Poison's "Every Rose Has Its Thorn" with the Rolling Stones' "You Can't Always Get What You Want," their first stab at Emerson, Lake & Palmer's "From the Beginning," and for the finale, Denny sending the Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" out to his wife, Peg. It all sounded good, and Denny & Ken's performance was much appreciated by the Castle Pub onlookers. Denny & Ken bring their acoustic stylings throughout the region; watch for them on a stage near you soon.

Jason Straw of
The Heathen Parade

On the live-streaming front, the Central PA Music Hall Of Fame has been presenting almost nightly live-streaming performances on their Facebook page in recent weeks, and I was able to witness a few of them. One was rising Harrisburg-based southern rock and outlaw country force Buckskin Whiskey as they celebrated the release of their debut EP, "Roll On," last month. (See the review of the EP elsewhere in this issue.) Performing at the Rock Mill Studios in Mechanicsburg (where the EP was recorded), lead singer and acoustic guitarist Josh Saussaman, lead guitarist Zach Beers, guitarist and steel player Koedee Gordon, keyboardist Alex Cassel, bassist Bryan Sentz and drummer Dan Almoney did songs from the EP such as "Sleeping Around," "Hell Hounds of El Dorado," "Outta Tennessee" and the EP title track "Roll On," with Josh, Zach and Bryan all sharing lead singing duties. The group introduced several other new originals, and also did numbers from the Allman Brothers, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Merle Haggard and others. One surprise was Buckskin Whiskey's rural-tinged take on Dire Straits' "Walk of Life," and the group also did a stormy version of Molly Hatchet's "Flirtin' with Disaster," highlighted by dual guitar harmonies from Zach and Koedee. Buckskin Whiskey plays a busy summer season performance schedule throughout central PA, including the Southern Rock Woodstock event on July 24 at Wagon Wheel Amphitheater near Philipsburg.

Andy Mowatt's Frequency Movement – AMFM – also did a live stream performance last month on Facebook via the Central PA Music Hall Of Fame. Performing from Tellus360 in Lancaster, Andy Mowatt's latest band endeavor brought an adventurous mixture of mostly instrumental funk, jazz and rock fusion. Andy on guitar and talkbox, Nate Young on keys, Caden Myers on bass, Paul Berry on sax and Taylor Wade on drums spotlighted AMFM's original compositions, including several songs from their most recent album, "Symphonic Funk Box." This performance was constantly dazzling, with busy arrangements, musical interaction and frequent improvisational bursts – all making for exciting listening and viewing. According to Lancaster Online, Andy recently enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to join Max Impact, the Air Force's premier rock band.

continued on next page...

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THE PROFESSOR continued....

Galla of Dan & Galla

And Perry County-based country songsmith Zach King appeared on a Central PA Music Hall of Fame live stream last month, showing part of his performance at Grandpa's Love Shack in Shermans Dale. Strumming acoustic guitar and entertaining music fans and diners, Zach performed several of the songs off his recently-released cassette EP, "Peace Of Mind," such as the title track, "Vice," "Grow Up," "Whiskey" and "Ohio." Zach kept folks happy with his classic country/folk sound and style, and his friendly and conversational onstage personality.

I also caught portions of live stream performances from the duo of John "JT" Thompson and Andy Tolins plus Acoustic Moose, both as part of the weekly Thursday Virtual Jam presented by the Blues Society of Central PA; as well as New York's Chelsea Takami during one of her weekly Monday Facebook live stream performances.

The regional music scene was again saddened by the passings of musicians in recent weeks…Harrisburg area-based guitarist Mike Knoll passed away on March 25 at age 49. Mike had played guitar for such bands as Waysted Sylence, Dying Breed, Angels N' Saints and Treachery…And Damien "Peach" Petry, the singer, guitarist and founding member of Cambria County roots music group the High Street Drifters, passed away unexpectedly on March 27 at age 44. Damien and the High Street Drifters frequently performed at Magoo's in Cresson, as well as various music festival events throughout the region…We at PA Musician share our heartfelt sympathies with the families, friends and fans of both musicians.

News and notes…Candlelight Red returned to the recording studio last month to record a brand new EP to be released later this year; with Morgan Rose of Sevendust playing drums, Candlelight Red recorded with Jose Urquiza at his studio in Geneseo, Illinois…After initially cancelling it due to concerns over COVID-19, Visit Johnstown announced that PolkaFest will return next month at a new location, People's Natural Gas Park in Johnstown, on June 4-5…The Blair County Historical Society will again present Mansion Mania Rockfest on June 5 on the lawn at Altoona's Baker Mansion, featuring performances from Challenger Deep and Half Tempted; ticket proceeds benefit the Blair County Historical Society…The first of a two-album compilation series spotlighting music about the Susquehanna River has been released – The Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association issued "Songs of the Susquehanna Volume I," featuring 20 songs about the Susquehanna River, its history, legends and traditions. The songs were contributed by various regional songwriters and performers; among them Van Wagner, Hannah Bingman, Bill Dann and William Ryan. The CD can be purchased from the website www.middlesusquehannariverkeeper.org...Stephanie & the Wild Hearts songwriting couple Bob and Stephanie Onkst's song "Sorry You Got Caught" was recently chosen as the winner of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) Pittsburgh Chapter Challenge, hosted by Anthem Entertainment; the song now advances to the national challenge…And former Kyx, Inside Out and Kicked In member Jim Walstrom has taken over bass duties in Altoona-based rock group Fourth Street.

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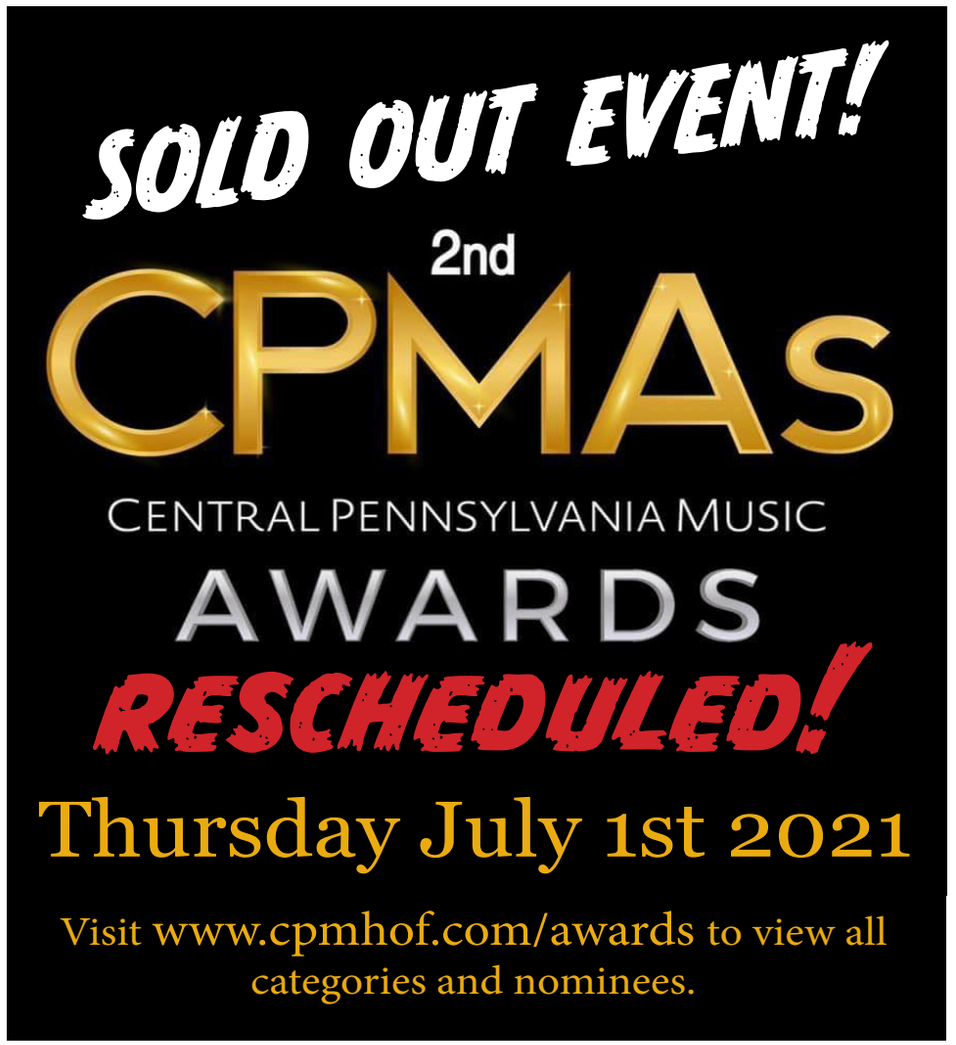
PA MUSICIAN REVIEWS

By Jim Price

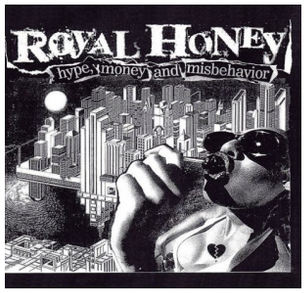
BUCKSKIN WHISKEY – ROLL ON EP (no label) Southern-fried rock and outlaw country thrive on the five tracks of Roll On, the debut EP from Harrisburg-based rebel rockers Buckskin Whiskey. Formed in 2019, Buckskin Whiskey reprises the classic guitar-army rowdiness and hard Southern rock tradition first distilled in the 1970s by names like Lynyrd Skynyrd, Blackfoot and Molly Hatchet, blended with the outlaw spirit of names like David Allan Coe and Steve Earle. Lead vocalist and acoustic guitarist Josh Saussaman belts and growls his words with a raw, gritty edge and determination, flanked by lead guitarist Zach Beers, guitarist and steel player Koedee Gordon, bassist Bryan Sentz, keyboardist Alex Cassel and drummer Dan Almoney. This powerhouse lineup makes their presence immediately felt on the EP's opening track, "Sleeping Around," with its proud, hard-driving swagger and words about life on the road. Its narrative inspired by tales of the wild west, "Hell Hounds of El Dorado" displays a more sinister and dangerous vibe, its tension-and-release set-up perfectly executed by the band and Josh's hearty vocal. Buckskin Whiskey's country presence takes center stage on "Simple Kinda Life," with Alex's gentle organ groan and Koedee's steel guitar coloring an upbeat number about back porch simple living. Danger returns on "Outta Tennessee," a blues-rooted rocker about murder and running from the law; before the group's surging title track epic, "Roll On" – about maneuvering on life's highway – delivers a powerful close to the set. This EP is rock solid from start to end; the melodies connect, and the group's arrangements and presentation pack punch and emotion into each song. Produced by Logan Summey and the group, and recorded, mixed and mastered at Rock Mill Studios in Mechanicsburg, this set sounds full-bodied, clear and sharp-edged. Buckskin Whiskey proudly carries the torch for classic-styled southern rock and outlaw country on Roll On, a strong opening chapter that leaves no doubt about what this group is musically all about. Good stuff! (The EP can be obtained on digital platforms and through Buckskin Whiskey's website, www.buckskinwhiskey.com.)

FIGHTING ADAM – CRAZY (One Nine Records) Fighting Adam is the name of the solo recording project by Sugarloaf-based singer, songwriter and musician Adam Sorber. Adam devised the project after himself experiencing, and witnessing friends endure and exit, controlling and manipulative relationships. He observes and addresses such situations through the six original songs of Fighting Adam's debut album, Crazy. Adam does it all here; he wrote all the songs, sang and played all instruments, and produced, mixed, engineered and mastered the album at his own Studio One Nine. He does a good job; his melodies and lyrics are sturdy, his punchy blend of rock, pop and funk flavors sounds focused and consistent, and his voice and busy instrumental arrangements sound tight. The songs do explore the toxic side of relationships – opening the set, the title track "Crazy" presents allegations of a one-sided relationship. Deciding to exit a controlling relationship situation informs the words of the electronica-infused rocker "Chained," while reaching the breaking point in an abusive relationship provides the theme of the hard-driving "Back Against the Wall." "Hurricane" describes how unnecessary drama can turn a relationship stormy, the hard and crunchy "Fake" blasts drama queens and posers, while the funkier-edged "Sick" addresses plastic partners who forget their roots. The album also contains radio-friendly versions of "Crazy" and "Hurricane." Adam sings his words with clarity, soul and style, and his song creations move and groove. The overall production of the album is clear, full and vibrant, and sounds cohesive from start to finish. Fighting Adam's Crazy provides an impressive first chapter for Adam Sorber's original music journey, and offers an infectious, energetic listen. (The album is available through Apple Music, Amazon and other digital platforms.)

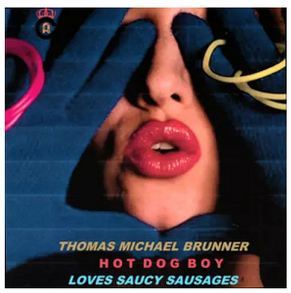
ROYAL HONEY – HYPE, MONEY AND MISBEHAVIOR (The Vault Records) Pittsburgh fivesome Royal Honey came together in 2018, merging several seasoned musicians of the Steel City



rock scene who had played in previous bands such as The Dirty Charms, The Cheats, The Science Fiction Idols, Kill Bossa and more. Their first album, Hype, Money and Misbehavior, finds Royal Honey firing away with rip-roaring, hard-edged rock'n'roll that tips its hat to the bad-boy rock of names like the Rolling Stones, New York Dolls, Guns N'Roses, AC/DC and more. Through six songs, the tandem of guitarists Eric Rodger and Dave Musick, bassist Greg Damjanovic and drummer Angel O slam boisterous backdrops and rhythms, setting the launching pad for singer and screamer Bobby C to belt out words about wild living and wild women. The first single from the set, "Dirty Romance," storms out the gate with vintage rock'n'roll fury, while "The Noose" floors the accelerator as Bobby howls about getting out of town. With its nod to the Stones, "Once Again" merges blues-rock swagger with a slight country twang. The hard-driving instrumental "Honey on Your Thigh" gives both guitar players the opportunity to strut their stuff, leading into the sexy and sleazy rocker "Sex Kitten." Royal Honey seals the deal with a closing bonus track, the fast-firing rock'n'roller "American Jive." This set is action-packed from start to end, as Royal Honey keeps foot on the gas pedal and never lets up. The instrumental execution is tight and lively, and Bobby C's polecat howl reaches high toward the heavens early and often. The melodies are simple, catchy and to the point. Produced by Eric Rodger and engineered, mixed and mastered by Bob McCutcheon at The Vault, this set pounds with crispness and edge. Royal Honey blends feverish rock'n'roll with spit and attitude on Hype, Money and Misbehavior, a sonic smack to the cranium made to be cranked loud through the speakers. (The album can be obtained through the group's website, www.royalhoneyband.com, as well as through the group's Bandcamp page and other digital platforms.)



THOMAS MICHAEL BRUNNER – HOT DOG BOY LOVES SAUCEY SAUSAGES EP (Canadian American Records) Say this much about longtime Altoona-bred music maker Thomas Michael Brunner – nobody will ever accuse him of being predictable. Through his musical journey, Tom has explored the experimental and thrashy sides of the heavy metal continuum in projects such as the Tom Brunner Group, Killer Elite and I.B.S.; and through his solo costumed personas – Elvis Chicken and Sharky – has dabbled in a wide tapestry of sounds spanning Hawaiian ukulele pop, Spanish guitar folk, roots rock'n'roll, novelty songs and more. Tom's latest inception is Hot Dog Boy, where he decks out as – you guessed it – a walking and bass-slinging hot dog, complete with bun and mustard! This persona serves as the launch pad for Tom's latest five-song musical adventure, Hot Dog Boy Loves Saucey Sausages, released through Joey Welz's Canadian American Records label. At least based on these five tracks, the musical direction is back toward heavy-hitting rock and metal, featuring prominent full-distortion power chords, rumbling rhythms, and Tom's distorted voice as Hot Dog Boy, barking words about life as a hot dog. Besides vocals, Tom also plays all guitars and basses, with Stephen Ganong contributing drums. The overall flavor here suggests a surreal fusion of Ozzy-era Black Sabbath with shock-rockers the Mentors and thrash-rockers S.O.D./M.O.D. Where would a hot dog begin life? Tom answers that on the EP's opening track, "Meat Processing Plant," celebrating Hot Dog Boy's birthplace along a prominent, Sabbathy riff. A brooding, doom-esque metal backdrop underscores the psychotic-flavored "Cocktail Weenies," before Hot Dog Boy throws a musical curve ball with a decidedly metal-flavored take on that seventh-inning stretch classic "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." Next is what sounds like a heavy-rocking commercial jingle in "Saucey Sausage," before the EP wraps up with the abstract fast-food drive-thru window nightmare noise-fest "Do You Want Fries With That." The delivery is noisy and chaotic, and distortion and reverb are present throughout. But this EP is nonetheless intriguing, as Thomas Michael Brunner uses his Hot Dog Boy persona to explore new sonic space and indulge a bizarre new lyrical angle. (The album can be obtained digitally through Amazon Music, and streamed through various online platforms.)



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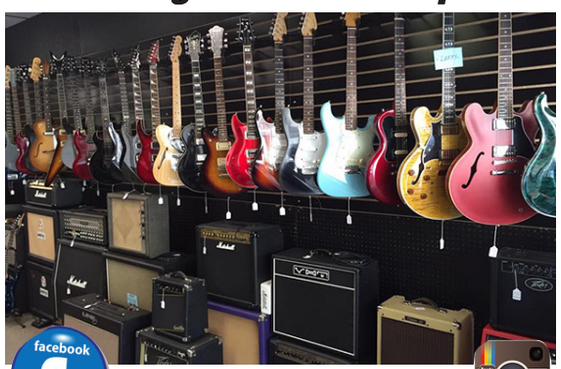

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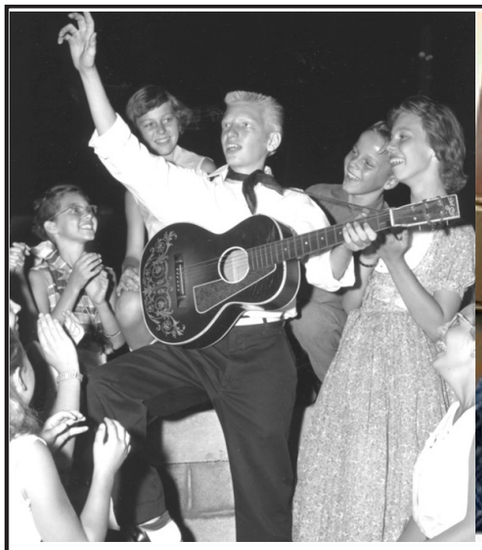
"Being Independent is Being Canadian American."



Come Celebrate the life of WHITEY NOLL with us....

Saturday, June 19th, 2021 2:30pm-10pm
2436 Circle Drive • Liverpool, PA 17045

Get ready to party! It's finally time to celebrate Whitey's life, the way he would want it with **LIVE MUSIC, FAMILY & FRIENDS!!!** We're taking it back old school with **THE SHARKS! SYN D'CATS! MARTINI BROS., RAY ROSSI** spinning between sets, and finishing off the night with **ROAD CASE** and **SUICIDE PUPPETS**.

This is going to be "THE PARTY OF THE SUMMER!" You won't want to miss it!

Details: Gates Open 2:30pm - Parking is limited so please CARPOOL if you can!

•3:30pm - Official Memorial Service with Pastor Tim from Abundant Harvest Church officiating

•4:00pm - Family/Friends Jam Band • 5:00pm - Syn D' Cats • 6:00pm - Sharks

• 7:00pm - The Martini Bros. •8:00pm - Road Case • 9:00pm - Suicide Puppets

Of course this schedule is SUBJECT TO CHANGE!! Please check back closer to the day for any changes.

This is a RAIN or SHINE event. If it RAINS, the event will move indoors to **THE FACKTORY: 101 Chestnut St, Liverpool, PA 17045 (About 2 miles from the farm).**

There will be **FOOD TRUCKS** & **CONCESSION STANDS**. This is **BYOB**. Please drink responsibly

Please feel free to bring Canopies, Chairs, blankets etc... ~ NO PETS PLEASE~

This is a FREE Event, but there will be donation buckets around to donate towards the bands, sound, lights, etc.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE THERE!

Goblin AlchemY

DRAGON HEART

SIREN SONG

BLACKBERRY FAIRY

MEAD

Bottled and Distributed by
Deerfoot
Vineyards and Winery
1492 Ridge Rd. Shoemakersville, PA 19555

We're Open!
Tasting room hours:
Sat : 12-5p
Sun : 12-5p

Curbside pickup hours:
7 days a week.
10:00A-6:00PM
https://wine.DeerfootFarm.com

SUICIDE PUPPETS

STRICKEN
-DISTURBED TRIBUTE-